

Democratic State Convention.

COLUMBUS, July 4, 1845.

The delegates of the democracy of Ohio, agreeably to previous notice, met this day in the United States Court House, and at 10 o'clock was organized by the appointment of the Hon. BENJAMIN TAPPAN, of Jefferson county, as President of the Convention, assisted by the Hon. FRANCIS A. CUNNINGHAM, of Preble, and JOHN B. BUTTLES, of Trumbull, as Vice Presidents, and William Lawrence, of Guernsey, and Jesse B. Stephens, of Preble, as Secretaries.

H. C. Whitman, of Fairfield, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That this convention will proceed to fill up the vacancies in the Democratic State Central Committee, and that that committee be authorized and requested to draw up and publish a plan for the efficient and thorough organization of the democratic party in the State, and that the convention adjourn to meet in Columbus on the 8th day of January next.

The resolution was discussed at length by Messrs. Whitman, Drake, and Stephens, when, on motion of Mr. Olds, it was laid upon the table.

Dr. Thomas M. Drake offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee of one from each Congressional district be appointed to prepare and report business for the action of the convention; which was adopted.

The chair appointed the following persons to constitute said committee:

Wm. Corry, R. Hazeltine, Edwin Smith, Hugh Judson, H. C. Whitman, S. Medary, J. M. Perry, H. H. Dodge, Wm. Ferguson, Wm. Dunbar, John Brand, G. A. Hall, David Robb, R. A. Knapp, R. Dickinson, Wm. Ross, Thos. L. Hamer, and H. A. Tenny.

Col. S. Medary here tendered to the convention his resignation as chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, prefaced by some eloquent remarks; the convention refused to accept his resignation.

After a lengthy discussion of the subject, William Lawrence offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this convention be tendered to the Democratic State Central Committee, for the ability and fidelity with which they have discharged their very laborious duties—and that they be requested to retain their places until the 8th of January next.

Col. Medary upon the solicitation of the convention, consented to serve until the 8th of January next.

Dr. Smith submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That five members of the convention, be appointed by the President, to report suitable resolutions for the action of this convention, to the memory of General Jackson.

The following persons were appointed said committee: Col. Wm. Allen, C. B. Flood, Dr. Smith, Wm. Corry and Judge Luce.

On motion of R. Hazeltine, the convention took a recess until 4 o'clock P. M.

4 o'clock P. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Flood, from the committee to report suitable measures for the adoption of the convention relative to the death of ANDREW JACKSON, made the following report:

Resolved, That, on this, the anniversary of freedom's birth, our rejoicings are tempered with sadness for the loss of freedom's favored son. ANDREW JACKSON, full of years and full of honors, has passed from a world of trouble and of care, to one of happiness and peace.

Resolved, That in his death, the country has lost a statesman and a warrior, tried and true—a patriot without guile, and a Christian who practiced the precepts he taught. One who knew no ambition but his country's good, and the welfare of his fellow man. Pure, upright and single hearted, the master passion strong in death; the last of his thoughts, while yet upon earth, were for the country for which he had periled life and limb, and for the people he loved, that they might be saved from the blighting curse of special legislation.

Resolved, That "Heaven gave to Andrew Jackson length of days, and he filled them with deeds of greatness." That page of his country's history which records those deeds, are among the brightest of the whole. As a warrior, whether in the field against the Briton or their savage allies, his march was but to victory. In the cabinet, his cool sagacity and the stern honesty of purpose, which required the asking of nothing but what was clearly right, and the submission to nothing that was wrong, made him the most successful diplomatist of his age.

Resolved, That the democracy of Ohio, in State convention assembled, responding to the feelings of affection which ever animate the breasts of those they represent, for the name and fame of the late head of the democracy

of the nation, can in no manner whatever pay more acceptable tribute to the illustrious dead, than in again pledging each to the other, their firm and fixed determination, to maintain inviolate, the principles of Andrew Jackson, as the polar star of their political faith, to the end that the democratic principles which we and our fathers received from Jefferson and Jackson, may descend to our children, pure as we received them from the hands of these their illustrious defenders.

Col. Wm. Allen, being loudly called upon from all parts of the convention, arose and responded to the call in a feeling, eloquent and patriotic manner. He spoke of the departed Sage of the Hermitage, in all the various relations he sustained to his country, during his long and eventful life. He contemplated him as a Hero, a Statesman, and a Christian.

The resolutions were then unanimously adopted.

H. C. Whitman from the committee to report business for the action of the convention, made the following report:

WHEREAS, The democratic party of Ohio, has assembled in convention, to organize for the approaching momentous campaign; and

WHEREAS, The crisis by its magnitude and character demands a full display of that firmness, wisdom and integrity which should distinguish not less in defeat than in victory, the movements of that great party.

To the end therefore, that there may be no delay in our organization, nor any obscurity in the announcement of our political principles; be it

Resolved, That we recommend that the democratic party of Ohio be forthwith placed in complete organization for the ensuing election, so that every man in its ranks may come to the charge next October, with that precision and energy which ensure the victory.

Resolved, That in the ensuing fall election, the democratic party should, among other things, exert themselves.

1st. To maintain the freedom and independence of the State, and deliver it from the bondage of a corrupt, irresponsible and swindling system of monopolies, by the immediate repeal of the act passed by the federalists, in the last legislature, styled "an act to incorporate the State Bank of Ohio, and other banking companies."

2d. To provide safe and efficient remedies for the people against fraudulent banking institutions, and other corporations, by restoring the laws repealed by the federalists, or by passing other efficient laws for that purpose.

3d. To amend or repeal the unjust provisions of the present tax law, by means of which the capital of bankers is exempted, and heavy burdens imposed upon the property and industry of the people.

Resolved that the federal party of Ohio, in changing the congressional districts and altering the boundaries of counties, for the purpose of acquiring political power, have furnished another instance of their disregard of law and precedent, and their willingness to adopt any measure, however new, unjust, or revolutionary, that may serve to gratify their lust for power.

Resolved, That hostility to the right of suffrage has always been a leading trait of federalism, and to impose burdens and restraints upon the right of suffrage has ever been a favorite object of federal legislation. Accordingly, the federalists in the Ohio Legislature, by the act requiring electors names to be registered, not only violated the constitution of the State, but furnished convincing proof.

First: That federalism will now, as heretofore, seek every occasion to restrict the right of voting.

Second: That the federal legislators of the present day, influenced by the same malignant spirit, are worthy followers of those who enacted the alien and sedition laws.

Third: That the spirit of whiggery and Native Americanism is identical.

Resolved, That democratic measures can best be carried out by those entertaining democratic principles, and hence it is the duty of those entrusted with the selection of public servants to appoint and retain only such as accord in principle, past experience having shown the evil of a democratic administration appointing or retaining its opponents in office, and that such policy is alike injurious to the public interests and unjust to the party by whom the administration has been placed in power.

Resolved, That the American title to Oregon territory is "clear and unquestionable," and the democracy of Ohio will support the administration in maintaining that title at any and all hazards.

Resolved, That the democracy of Ohio demand the vigorous carrying out of the principles advoiced by President Monroe in 1823, that no portion of the North American Continent should be longer subject to European colonization.

Resolved, That the federal party of Ohio, in taking ground against Oregon

and Texas, have but shown the true anti-national feeling, and evinced that they are now, as during the last war, hostile to American interests and American honor.

Resolved, That the democracy of Ohio rejoice at the extension of the "area of freedom," by the now certain annexation of Texas to the Union, and they consider the interference of England and France, in the annexation question, as impudent, officious, and insulting to the honor of the United States.

Resolved, That we congratulate our country on the election of James K. Polk to the presidency—that his administration, so far, has been in accordance with the will and wishes of the democracy, and that we have every confidence that his official conduct will meet and receive the approbation of a large majority of the people.

On motion, the resolutions were considered separately and adopted.

Mr. Hazeltine offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the democracy of Ohio have heard with regret, Col. Samuel Medary has withdrawn from the editorship of the Ohio Statesman, and that they extend to him their warmest thanks for his long, arduous, and efficient exertions to promote the advancement of democratic principles, and that in retiring from his post, as editor, he carries with him the entire confidence and gratitude of the democratic party.

Immediately after the above resolution was offered, Mr. Hamer said that the same resolution was proposed in committee, and agreed to without a dissenting voice, but as Mr. Medary—who at that time was not with them—had been appointed a member of the committee, it was deemed best to offer the resolution to the convention, as if coming from an individual member. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Dunbar submitted the following resolution which was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That Francis P. Blair and John C. Rives, by their truth, courage and independence; while editors of the Globe, rendered lasting services to the democratic party. Uncorrupted in prosperity, undismayed in adversity, they were never driven from their posts, nor betrayed their trust. Monied corporations could not purchase their favor nor alarm their fears, and they were never found tampering with federalism, compromising principle, or fighting on the side of the enemy.

—On motion of R. Hazeltine,

The proceedings of this convention were ordered to be signed by the officers and published in the "Ohio Statesman," and all other democratic papers of the state.

Col. G. W. Manypenny offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That we respectfully recommend to the democratic party in the state, a modification in the system of appointing delegates to our biennial 8th of January convention, so that each Senatorial District will hereafter elect one delegate and each Legislative District elect the same number of delegates as such district may have representatives in the lower branch of the state Legislature.

The consideration of this resolution gave rise to considerable discussion, in which Messrs. Drake, Martin, Manypenny, Robb, Hamer and others, participated. On motion, the further consideration of the resolution was postponed until the 8th of January next.

Mr. Pardee offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the release of Thos. W. Dorr from prison—the bringing him forth upon the world an outlawed felon, deprived of his rights as a citizen for daring to advocate for his native State a republican form of government adds but to the infamy of his cruel oppressors, and will stamp R. Island federalism as both cowardly and base.

R. Dickinson offered the following resolution which was adopted.

Resolved, That the thanks of this convention be tendered to the President, Vice President, and Secretaries for the able and impartial manner in which they have performed the duties assigned them.

On motion of R. Hazeltine,

The convention adjourned sine die. BENJAMIN TAPPAN, President. FRANCIS A. CUNNINGHAM, Vice Pres. JOEL B. BUTTLES, Sec.

Wm. Lawrence, Jesse B. Stephens, Secretaries.

Democratic Editors' Convention.

At a meeting of the Democratic Editorial fraternity of Ohio, convened at the United States Court House, in the city of Columbus, on Friday, July 4th, at 8 o'clock A. M.

On motion, D. A. ROBERTSON, Esq. Editor of the (Lancaster) Ohio Eagle was called to the chair; and JOHN BRAND of the Steubenville Union, appointed Secretary.

The Chair returned thanks to the Convention for the honor conferred, in a few brief and pertinent remarks.

On motion of Mr. Knapp, of the (Bucyrus) People's Forum, it was

Resolved, that the ex-Editors present be invited to take part in the proceedings of this convention.

The objects of the meeting having been briefly stated,

On motion of Mr. Gotshall, a committee of five was appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the convention.

Whereupon, the Chair appointed Messrs. Gotshall, editor of the Stark County Democrat, Knapp of the Marion County Democrat, Carry of the Wayne County Democrat, Knapp of the Bucyrus People's Forum, and Buttles of the Trumbull Democrat, said committee.

It being announced that the State Convention was about to assemble:

On motion the Convention adjourned until 7 o'clock, P. M.

7 o'clock, P. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on resolutions being present, their chairman, Mr. Gotshall, reported the following, which were unanimously adopted:

That, after a careful consideration of the various subjects which would naturally present themselves for the action of this Convention; they find first in importance, the necessity of unanimity of sentiment, and concert of action, among the democratic editorial corps, in advancing the great principles and permanent interests of the democratic party—that party whose principles are identified with human liberty, and based upon the rights and equality of men:—we mean those principles that were promulgated, at the organization of this Republic, by Thomas Jefferson, the great apostle of American liberty; and that subsequently marked, with a halo of glory, the administration of the immortal Jackson.

For the purpose, then, of inducing that unanimity of sentiment and concert of action, so essential to the harmony and success of the democratic party, we propose, briefly to advert to the objects necessarily to be attained, in establishing a permanent democratic ascendancy in our State.

First: That the men selected as candidates for office, be requested to give satisfactory assurance of sincere attachment to the principles of the democratic party; pledging themselves to maintain in their official stations, all those great principles of human liberty purchased by the blood and treasure of our revolutionary fathers. Equal and exact justice to all, but exclusive privileges to none is a fundamental doctrine of the democratic creed as practically illustrated by the fathers of the Republic.

Second: To avoid the too early discussion of the relative claims of members of the same party for the same offices, such discussions invariably direct the attention of the people, from a proper appreciation of the principles, which should govern them in the selection of suitable organs of their will. Besides the too hasty discussion of such questions, between brethren of the same political faith, frequently leads them into unprofitable, and not unfrequently bitter controversies, ending in disunion and consequent defeat.

Third: To consign to the shades of oblivion all personal bickering, with every feeling of animosity, growing out of differences of opinion, with reference to details, in carrying on democratic measures, against those who are otherwise with us in sustaining the great principles of the democracy, under whose glorious banner we fight.

Fourth: That as patriots and lovers of our free institutions, we ought cordially to unite all our energies to redeem the State from the oppressions and misrule of federalism, by exposing the corruptions and usurpations of power manifested by the enactments of the last whig Legislature—burdening the people with a system of unjust taxation, and thrusting upon them a system of paper money, calculated to paralyze every other interest—rendering the labor and industry of the country subservient to the interest of associated and incorporated wealth. Therefore,

Resolved, That we will put forth our best energies to accomplish the overthrow of federalism in Ohio, and that, for the purpose of achieving this desirable victory, we cordially extend the right hand of fellowship to every true democrat, and invite him to hearty cooperation in this glorious work.

Resolved, That we will not ourselves, and we request our democratic editorial brethren who are not present on this occasion to unite with us in these resolutions, engage in the discussion of the relative merits of the different candidates for the next Presidency, until after the next election for Governor of Ohio; that we believe the premature agitation of that question fraught with evil—engendering discord, and sowing the seeds of disunion and ultimate defeat.

Resolved, That it is the duty of the present administration, and should be its policy, to surround itself, in the subordinate stations of the government, with men entertaining sound democratic principles, instead of political opponents; that the surest means of carrying out the great principles of democratic liberty in the administration of the government, as well as the adoption of energetic measures of self defense against the proscription policy of federalism, is their removal from office.

Resolved, That as we sustained the administration of Mr. Van Buren in the establishment of the Independent Treasury, in like manner will we support the present administration in the re-establishment of that salutary measure, and aid it, by all the legitimate means in our power, in restoring the fiscal powers of the government to their wonted constitutional vigor.

Resolved, That the high handed, unconstitutional, and anti-republican acts of the last federal Legislature of Ohio, are alarming to every friend of equal rights, to whatever party or sect he may belong; and that, as sentinels upon the watch tower of freedom, we should renew and redouble our exertions in sounding the alarm, and warning the people of the insidious attacks upon their rights and liberties by that hostile array.

Resolved, That in the withdrawal of Col. Samuel Medary from the editorial corps, the democracy have lost an able, devoted and undaunted advocate; and the tripod a firm and uncompromising leader. That his efficient services in the ranks of the democracy have won for him the lasting gratitude of the republican party, of the whole Union, in whose grateful recollection his name will live and be revered and cherished so long as the ennobling principles of equal rights and democratic liberty shall find an advocate—and that, in retiring from the arduous duties which he has so faithfully performed, he will carry with him the warmest gratitude of the toiling millions, whose cause he has plead, against the oppressions of wealth and power.

On motion of Col. S. Medary.

Resolved, That we learn that our able and most worthy brother, H. A. Tenny, Esq., late of the democratic editorial corps of Ohio as editor of the "Lancaster Republican," is about pitching his tent farther towards the setting sun. We therefore take pleasure in expressing our gratitude for his past efficient services in the cause of democratic freedom, and hope his future career may be as prosperous as the past has been brilliant and useful.

On motion of Mr. Brand, it was

Resolved, That when this Convention adjourns, it adjourns to meet in the city of Columbus on the 8th of January next, and that our democratic editorial brethren of the State be earnestly invited to attend.

Resolved that the democratic editors of Ohio, who approve the proceedings of this Convention, be requested to publish them in their respective papers.

The Convention then adjourned.

D. A. ROBERTSON, Pres. JOHN BRAND, Sec'y

The Portage Sentinel.

RAVENNA, OHIO:

Thursday, July 17, 1845.

President Polk and the Clerks.

It is presumed to be a fact well known to the reading public, that complaints have frequently been made, during the last twenty years, of the unfaithfulness and incompetency of many of the Clerks (as well as higher functionaries) employed in the various departments of our general government. That those complaints have too often been well founded no candid man, who is informed on the subject, will attempt to deny. But at no period during the existence of our Government have the causes for such complaints been so numerous and flagrant as during the extraordinary Administration which closed its career on the third of March last.

The exciting and novel manner in which the political campaign of 1840 was conducted by the Whig party, was well calculated to enlist into its ranks the idle, the vagrant and the dissolute of all grades and conditions, from broke down stockjobbers, Bankers, and Land speculators to discharged tellers of suspended Banks, and dismissed Clerks of village Groceries; who being too indolent or too proud to "work for a living" succeeded, at the commencement of Mr. Tyler's Administration to an alarming extent, in appropriating to their own use a goodly share of the spoils of the victory which they had aided in achieving, and thereby were enabled to continue to revel in luxury and dissipation, (drawing the means for so doing from the public coffers), disregarding alike the public interests and the obligations they were under to discharge with fidelity the duties devolving upon them as public servants.

This state of things produced, in the various departments, what might reasonably be expected—a loose and irregular system of doing business—the imposition of extra and unjust duties on the few faithful and competent Clerks, and vexatious delays to individuals having business to transact there. For the purpose of correcting those evils and securing a prompt and faithful discharge of public duties—the present Executive, soon after entering upon the duties of his office, addressed to the Heads of the several Departments, a "Circular," of which the following is a copy:—

[CIRCULAR.]
WASHINGTON, April 11, 1845.

First In executing the laws there is no duty which appears to me more imperative than to take care that officers who receive the public money shall promptly and fully perform the duties for which the law appropriates their respective salaries. Justice to the public, and a proper regard for the clearly expressed will of Congress require that this shall be done. Those who come to the seat of government on public business should not be unnecessarily delayed by the negligence or intention of heads of bureaus or clerks connected with the Executive Department. Therefore invite your attention to the instructions of the act of Congress, approved on the 26th of August, 1840—"An act, legalizing and making appropriations for such necessary objects as have been usually included in the general appropriation bills without authority of law, and to fix and provide for certain incidental expenses of the departments and officers of government, and for other purposes," and in the twelfth section of the "act to re-organize the General Land Office," approved on the 4th of July, 1836:

"I desire that you will cause the monthly reports, required by the act of 1842, to be regularly made, and that you will transmit them to me." The law contemplates that the distribution of labor amongst the clerks shall bear a fair proportion to their compensation; and it is unjust that the meritorious and faithful should have to perform the duties of such as may be found to be negligent, idle, or incompetent. To prevent this injustice, it is essential that each clerk should attend regularly in his office and discharge his own appropriate duties. It is desired that each head of a bureau shall cause to be made a daily statement, showing the absence of each clerk from his duty during office hours, the cause of such absence as far as he may be able to ascertain them, and that this statement accompany the monthly reports.

I also desire that you will accompany these monthly reports with a statement of any complaints which may be made to you of any clerk in your office who may have contracted debts since his appointment, and does not pay them as he goes to contract. Disclaiming any right to interfere with the private affairs of officers of government, I am yet unwilling that they shall be embarrassed in the performance of their public duties by the just imputation of dissipated creditors, who trusted them on the faith of their compensation from the treasury.

Believing that the duties required of the officers and clerks employed in several Executive Departments are by no means unimportant, and impressed with the importance of prompt and efficient despatch of the public business, I desire that you will take measures for the due execution of the laws to which I have called your attention.

Respectfully yours,
JAMES K. POLK.

This act of the President, appears to have excited the displeasure of a portion of the dandy corps of Clerks, whose dissipated practices are about to be investigated and reformed by the regulations he has introduced. They, and their associates, charge the President with meddling with the private affairs of gentlemen, with which, they allege, he has no business to interfere—were they individuals engaged in the common vocations of private life, it is very true that requirements like those contained in the Circular, would not only be abortive, but would be regarded as an unheard of and unjustifiable interference with the private concerns of individuals. But when it is recollected that these complaining gentry, being wholly irresponsible themselves, succeed in obtaining, on credit, their boarding bills, merchant bills, washing bills, &c. by engaging to pay out of the compensation they are to receive for their Official services, which is known to be abundantly sufficient to cover all necessary expenses—and yet, disregarding their obligations to pay, waste their salaries in dissipation and licentiousness, leaving their necessary bills unpaid, to the great inconvenience and detriment of the honest business-men and laboring individuals who have been thus induced to extend such credits—the justice and propriety of the President's requirements will be apparent to all whose interests or irregular habits are not thereby affected—and the correctness of his motives will meet the approbation of an honest public.

In connection with this subject, a statement of the number of persons employed in the several Departments at Washington, may not be uninteresting to some of our readers.

The Register of Officers, Agents, &c. in the service of the United States, shows that there are employed in the capacity of Clerks alone, about five hundred individuals, who are distributed among the Departments as follows:

Department	Number
Treasury	12
War	230
Navy	46
General Post Office	50
General Land Office	60
Patent Office	40
Pension Office	12
Indian Affairs	13

Of these 150 receive an annual salary each of \$1,000

Salary	Number
\$1,000	7
\$1,100	58
\$1,200	95
\$1,300	5
\$1,400	16
\$1,500	79
\$1,600	7
\$1,700	20
\$1,800	10
\$1,900	1
\$2,000	3

and the residue, salaries of eight or nine hundred dollars each or a per diem compensation equal thereto.

To this list, add about 50 superior Officers—such as Commissioners, Solicitors, Auditors, Comptrollers, Registers, Assistants, &c. whose annual salaries range from \$200 to \$500 each, and about an equal number of Messengers, Guards, Packers of Public Documents and papers, &c. with salaries ranging from \$50 to \$900 dollars each, and some estimate can be formed of the amount of money annually required to pay the salaries of this class of public servants, and of the imperative necessity of requiring of each a prompt and faithful discharge of his duties.

"We should like to see" a celebration on account of the annexation of Texas to the United States, and we are confident that there would be a sufficiency of "joy and enthusiasm" awakened on account of having folloed the ambitious "Queen of the sea" in attempting to lay her lion's paw upon the rich and fertile country of Texas. "We should like to see" a time of rejoicing upon all occasions when those who are universally opposed to this government are defeated. And yet another thing would we "like to see." We would like to see the Whig party, after federal party, quit advocating the rights of England and for once be found in the service of their own country.